

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]; Germann, Sandy[Germann.Sandy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Sat 9/12/2015 2:31:05 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Latest tracker

I spoke to Sandy this afternoon. Sandy is going to update until noon tomorrow. She's also going to update for an hour Sunday morning. I have an intern who is skilled in using Sharepoint and Excel, but she's not available again until Tuesday. I'm going to try to fill in until then, myself. - George

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 11, 2015, at 9:03 PM, Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)> wrote:

Do we have a sandy replacement for sandy? Thanks ng

**From:** Germann, Sandy  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2015 6:45 PM  
**To:** Gray, David; Grantham, Nancy  
**Subject:** Latest tracker

David, Nancy, here's the latest. I'll send a last one before I leave tomorrow at noon EST.

Request #	Outlet	Reporter	General Subject	Questions	Assigned to	Reporter Email	Response Provided
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Native America Calling	Show	We are having another show on Native America Calling about the Gold King mine spill. The show is on 9/18 at 1pm eastern. Can you please provide someone from the EPA to be on our show?	Will CLOSE on 9/18 with an interview with Jared (Kelly Zito is the lead)	
2649/8/2019	Monic Braine			
Colorado Public Radio	Kareem Interview	As the investigation moves forward about the Animas Spill, we'd like to book someone from the EPA for a conversation on our show in the future. We want to focus on a forward-looking conversation, like consideration of other mines, precautions the EPA is taking, how long you'll be monitoring/cleaning Animas. We've done a few stories about the Animas spill, including this conversation with the Stakeholders group, and therefore would love to touch on that as well. Grace Hood informed us about the meetings with the stakeholders that you had, and provided minutes from the meetings for. Anyway, do you think that we could get on your radar for the near future? DETAILS ON SHOW: We can go live or taped. It usually depends on the guest, and their comfort level. Live is always our preference. It would be between 10 - 20 minutes. It is just an interview with our host, Ryan Warner. The show is live at 10AM (Mountain), Monday - Thursday.	Interview with Stanislaus being scheduled for	
2779/9/2019	Colorado Matters"			
Washington Times	Nicole Richardson Video	I wanted to see if the EPA had any reaction to Rep. Bill Johnson's contention at today's House hearing that the EPA removed audio from its website video footage in which a worker at the mine says, "What do we do now?" Did the EPA remove the	Laura A	Interview with Stanislaus being scheduled for David 9/10 or 9/11 <a href="mailto:kmaddox@cprmail">kmaddox@cprmail</a>
2789/9/2019	Times Richardson Video			

audio, and if so, can you tell me why?

(Re: the 9/9/15 hearing)..I thought the Democrats and Stanislaus did a pretty good job of putting the spill in perspective. I saw this Colorado Watchdog piece and talked to the mine owner myself today who reiterated the same notion -- that the testimony was incorrect on this particular count -- about the cave-in:

[http://watchdog.org/237424/epa-hearing/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=watchdognews](http://watchdog.org/237424/epa-hearing/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=watchdognews)

.Can you talk to me about it or point me in the direction of a response?

FOLLOW-UP: Do you happen to have a link to the investigation you reference?

**FOLLOW-UP: can you or anyone at EPA provide me with a comment about the cave-in issue? Do you want to clarify that Stanislaus wasn't blaming the cave-in for the spill? I think it's fairly clear from my story that he didn't, but wanted to let you clarify it for my readers if you wish.**

**Some kind of comment on Hennis' allegation that this is misinformation from the EPA? Also, he told me the only people at EPA he's been able to talk to are workers at the site. That "all attempts to talk to anyone up the chain-of-command have been rebuffed." Is that true and do you know if it's standard operating procedure?**

Follow up  
Albuquerque  
2859/10/10  
Journal  
Coleman  
from  
hearing

Laura  
following  
up  
with  
OSWER  
on  
last  
Follow-  
up  
Qs  
(in  
bold)

Page 7 of the  
internal  
investigation  
mentions a mine  
cave-in as a  
possible scenario  
that could have  
contributed to  
blockage that  
reduced water  
flows, thus  
causing water to  
back-up in the  
mine. You  
should also  
review page 5 of  
the investigation,  
which mentions  
the rock giving  
way above the  
adit appeared to  
result in a spurt  
of water to flow  
from the mine.  
And I do want to  
clarify Mathy did  
not say that a  
cave in "caused"  
the release. Our  
internal review  
did not make a  
finding of what  
"caused" the  
release.  
FOLLOW-UP  
RESPONSE:  
<http://www2.epa.gov/releases-internal-report-gold-king-mine-response>.  
There is also a  
ton of great stuff  
under the "Gold  
King Mine  
Documents"  
section of the  
site, too.  
<http://www2.epa.gov/posts-gold-king-mine-file-documents>.  
FOLLOW-UP  
RESPONSE: The  
agency's Internal

Review did not  
make a finding of  
what caused the  
release. That was  
made clear by  
Mr. Stanislaus  
when he  
appeared before  
the House  
Science, Space,  
and Technology  
Committee on  
Sept. 9, 2015.  
As Mr.  
Stanislaus has  
said, we are  
awaiting the  
results of the  
independent  
investigation  
from the U.S.  
Department of  
the Interior and  
the EPA  
Inspector  
General before  
determining the  
cause of the  
release. Agency  
staff in our  
Region 8 office  
have had several  
discussions with  
Mr. Hennis's  
legal counsel  
since Aug. 5.

9/10/2015 Liz  
Jazeer Flynn

Navajo  
Concerns

Request for an on-camera interview with Jared to discuss the effect of the spill on Navajo Nation while they're in Farmington on Monday. FOLLOW-UP: Below are a few questions we'd like to ask Regional Administrator Jared Blumenfeld. Ideally we'd like to do an on-camera interview with him on Monday, Sept. 14. We'll be in the Farmington, NM area on that day. If he's not in the area that day, we could possibly arrange for a camera crew to meet him and conduct the interview.

-In your letter dated Sept 3 to President Begaye, you asked him about bringing your teams together for a meeting after Labor Day - has a meeting been planned?

-Through your sampling program - the EPA has determined the San Juan River water quality has returned to pre-release conditions. How do you address the Navajo Nation farmers who refuse to believe the water is usable?

-What are the EPA's next steps with respect to the San Juan River spill?

-What's the status of the Gold King Mine?

1) How much had first four (listed under "work stopped") progressed? In other words, how far along were projects? (how much money spent? How much work done? etc) 2) **And am I correct in assuming that work has not yet begun on the ones that say "further assessment needed"?** 3) What area and what mines or mills are covered under Upper Tenmile Creek?, 4) -What area and what mines or mills are covered by "James Creek Release"? Is it in Boulder County, Colorado? Is this the Captain Jack mining district or something else? 5) -- What area and what mines or mills are

Status  
Matt COB  
2889/10/2015 Brown  
9/11 other  
mines

For  
Follow-  
up  
Qs,  
Monica  
working  
w/  
R9  
on  
1st 2  
and  
with  
EOC/PIC  
on  
2nd  
2

Attached is a letter Regional Administrator Jared Blumenfeld sent to Navajo Nation President Begaye last Thursday. It outlines EPA and Navajo's progress on Gold King Mine, specifically noting the feedback the Navajo Attorney General gave confirming that the water in the EPA tanks met Navajo water quality standards. Below is the most recent press release specifically addressing water quality in the San Juan:

<http://www2.epa.gov/gold-king-mine-response-san-juan-river-data>. And this last link specifically addresses water quality affecting Navajo Nation:  
<http://www2.epa.gov/gold-king-mine-response-navajo-nation-additional-data-public-records>.

FOLLOW-UP:

Laura responded that Q 2 had been answered in Mathy interview (along w/ additional A about MBrown@ap.org the

		covered by "Eagle River"? Does this include the Eagle Mine? Is it only the Eagle Mine, or are there other mines or mills involved? Does it include the entire Eagle River, from Tennessee Pass to the Colorado River, or only a portion of it? 6) -What kind of activities would be put on hold on Levithan and Iron Mountain? What activities would not (water treatment plants, etc.)? 7)-Same question for the other sites on the list: what's being put on hold? In Colorado, for example, we were told by mayor of Crested Butte (closest town to Standard Mine) that work resumed about 10 days ago....	table and discrepancy about how many sites are on hold)
2939/11/2015	Durango Herald Jessica Herald Pace	Gold King Sludge 1) Are you receiving a lot of calls from people in La Plata County, or not just in La Plata, but in general, from homeowners who have sediment in their small waterways and want to know how to dispose of it, and if their water is safe for their gardens, etc? 2) Does the EPA dispose of the sludge, or is that up to those homeowners? How do they dispose of it? 3) Is it the homeowner's responsibility to call in if they have concerns, or did the EPA check in on everyone? 4) Do you respond to each call? What is the protocol for that?	<a href="mailto:jpace@DurangoHerald.com">jpace@DurangoHerald.com</a>
2949/11/2015	BNA Trip Balz	Response to Begay Does EPA have a response to President Russell Begaye's request the Upper Animas Mining District be listed on the NPL as a Superfund site?	<a href="mailto:abaltz@bna.com">abaltz@bna.com</a>
2969/11/2015	Peter Banda	Treatment at other mines How many mining districts/big mines could benefit from a wastewater treatment plant similar to the one proposed north of Silverton?	R8/IC <a href="mailto:pbanda@ap.org">pbanda@ap.org</a>